

Town of Arlington

2019-2020 Toward Zero Waste: Recycling and Trash Guide for Residents

Recycling and Trash Program Rules

Place trash on the curb no later than 7:00 AM on your trash pickup day and not before 6:00 PM the day before your collection day. Any item left on the curb past 9:00 PM on the day after pickup is subject to fines. No container or bundle for collection may exceed 50 lbs.

Recycling: Weekly collection is mandatory and enforced. Do not remove empty recycling bins before trash has been collected.

Trash Limit: Each household has a 100-gallon limit, or the equivalent of three 32-gallon trash barrels. While you may use trash bags at the curb, Arlington recommends placing all trash in a barrel.

Excess Trash: Trash over the weekly limit is the responsibility of the property owner to pay for its collection. For excess household trash contact the Recycling Coordinator for current options: 781-316-3108. If a dumpster is required, secure a permit with the Building Dept.: 781-316-3392.

Weekly Unlimited Yard Waste Collection: Paper leaf bags and clearly marked barrels are the only acceptable containers for yard waste. Plastic bags of yard waste cannot be collected as trash or as yard waste.

Bulk Trash Items: One bulk item is accepted with curbside collection per household, per week. Examples include mattresses/box springs (one set), wood bed frames, furniture, microwaves, toilets, sinks, and area rugs and carpet (one room, cut, rolled, and tied to 3' lengths or less). Tires can be recycled at local tire service stations for a fee. Bulky rigid plastic items are recyclable at the monthly Arlington Recycling Center.

Metal items: Large metal bulk items may require special handling or fees. Call JRM before putting these on the curb: metal bed frames, grills, lawn mowers (fluids removed), file cabinets, and exercise equipment. Propane tanks can be recycled at DPW; see Dispatcher when you arrive.

State Laws Regulate and Define Household Waste: Only acceptable household waste is collected by the Town contractor, JRM Hauling and Recycling, Inc. Acceptable household waste excludes any materials covered by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection Waste Bans, such as inherently dangerous, toxic, or hazardous wastes regulated by State and Federal authorities. Waste ban items include televisions and CRTs, construction and demolition debris, auto parts, stumps (regardless of size), dirt, rocks, concrete, biological waste, ammunition, and explosives. [mass.gov/guides/massdep-waste-disposal-bans](https://www.mass.gov/guides/massdep-waste-disposal-bans)

Disposal and Recycling Options

(non-curbside collection)

Composting: DPW sells compost bins at a discount. Visit arlingtonma.gov/recycle or call DPW for details.

TV/Computer Monitors (CRTs): Bring TVs and computer monitors to the DPW for proper disposal, \$20 per TV/monitor, \$5 per laptop. Leave the items in your car while you pay the fee. You will be instructed where to drive to the disposal location. You must be able to lift/transfer the units out of your car yourself. There is no staff assistance on site. Curbside pickup is available through JRM Hauling for a fee: \$38 for TVs with screens 36" and under, \$50 for larger. Call JRM to pay and schedule a pickup.

Electronic Waste (e-waste): Please recycle these items at DPW during regular business hours for free. Examples include cell phones and home phones, DVD players, small appliances, radio/stereo equipment, hard drives, cables, printers, ink and toner cartridges. View the full list of acceptable items online at arlingtonma.gov/recycle

Appliances (white goods): Appliances are collected at the curb, by appointment only, for recycling (\$20 per unit). Call JRM to pay and schedule a pick-up. Examples include clothes washers, dryers, dishwashers, stoves, refrigerators, air conditioners, hot water heaters, and dehumidifiers. Microwaves are considered a bulk trash item.

Mercury: These items must be kept out of the trash. Please bring the following items to DPW for proper handling: Batteries (button cell and rechargeable), thermometers and thermostats. Alkaline batteries go in the trash.

Fluorescent Light Bulbs: NOT accepted at curb or at DPW. Bring to a hardware store for proper disposal.

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW): Banned from household waste, HHW is collected eight times per year in Lexington. See calendar for dates. A list of acceptable items is listed at arlingtonma.gov/hhw.

Paint: Oil-based paints are disposed of at Household Hazardous Waste collections. Latex paint should be completely dried, then disposed in regular trash.

Medications: Unwanted medications can be dropped off 24 hours a day, 7 days per week in the medication disposal drop box at the Community Safety Building, 112 Mystic Street. Never place these items down a drain.

Sharps: Collected (in red sharps containers only) at four specific Recycling Center events. See the Recycling Center page in this guide for dates. Call Board of Health for information: 781-316-3170.

Curbside Recycling Program Instructions

Three categories of materials are collected by three separate trucks: trash, recycling and yard waste (seasonal). Keep all containers grouped together at the curb. Complete program rules are included in this guide.

Trash: While trash bags are collected at the curb, residents are encouraged to use trash barrels with lids, per state public health regulations. Trash is limited to 100 gallons per week per household, and a 32-35 gallon barrel size is advised. One 64 gallon barrel is acceptable, two would be over the limit. There is a 50 lbs. weight limit for each barrel/bag of trash, recycling and yard waste.

Recycling: The Town does not distribute recycling bins. When choosing your own bin or barrel, blue containers are the best choice, but if you reuse an existing container it must be clearly marked with a DPW RECYCLING sticker, free and available at DPW and Town Hall. Please choose a recycling container that is large enough to accommodate your recycling and prevent it from blowing away. Unlimited amounts of recycling are accepted at the curb. Recycling must accompany trash at curb. To ensure trash is collected, do not remove empty recycling bins before trash has been collected.

Single Stream Preparation: Arlington recycling is single-stream, but residents may continue to keep paper and cardboard separated. All recyclables (cans, bottles, jars) must be rinsed free of all contaminants. Remove and discard all corks in trash. To recycle plastic bottle lids, remove some air from the container and then re-attach the lid. Do not place items in recycling that are smaller than a credit card because they cannot be sorted and recovered correctly.



Metal	Plastic	Glass	Paper & Cardboard
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Food and Beverage
Cans
(empty and rinse)



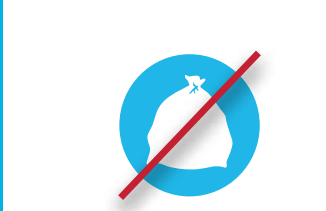
Bottles, Jars, Jugs,
and Tubs
(empty & replace cap)



Bottles and Jars
(empty and rinse)



Mixed Paper,
Newspaper,
Magazines, Boxes
(empty and flatten)



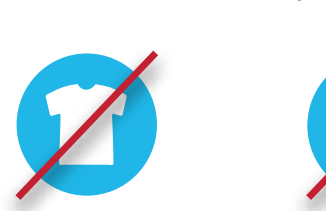
Do Not Bag
Recyclables
No Garbage



No Plastic Bags
or Plastic Wrap
(return to retail)



No Food or Liquid
(empty all
containers)



No Clothing or Linens (use donation programs)	No (no l chains
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No Tangles
(no hoses, wires,
pumps or electronics)

RecycleSmartMA.org
An initiative of MassDEP

 An initiative of MassDEP

Collection Calendar

Missed collections and paid excess trash pick-up, call JRM at 800-323-HAUL (4285).



Weekly Unlimited Yard Waste Collection ends the week of Dec. 2, 2019 on your trash day, with one drop off day at DPW on Sat., Dec. 14, 9AM-noon. Curbside collection resumes week of April 13, 2020. Yard waste must be in barrels or paper bags labeled with Town "Yard Trimmings" sticker – no plastic bags. Tree branches must be 3 feet or shorter and under 1 inch thick. Branches may be bundled and must weigh less than 50 lbs. Use only biodegradable twine. No stumps or root balls of any size will be collected.

Christmas Tree Collection the week of Jan. 6, 2020 on your trash day. No plastic bags. No yard waste. One-day tree drop off at DPW, Sat., Jan. 18, 9AM-noon.



No collection (holiday). Trash delayed one day rest of week. Friday collections are on Saturday.



Household Hazardous Waste: Drop-off for Arlington residents at: 60 Hartwell Ave. Lexington – 9AM to 2PM. For full list of acceptable items please check: arlingtonma.gov/hhw.



Arlington Recycling Center: Open 9AM to 12PM Collecting harder-to-recycle-materials: textiles, books, white packing foam, scrap metal, bulky rigid plastic, fire extinguishers & propane tanks, electronic waste & some batteries. During snow emergencies event is cancelled.

Arlington Public Works Hours and Contact

DPW Customer Service Office

51 Grove Street, 2nd Floor

Hours: Monday - Wednesday, Friday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Thursday 8 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Phone: 781-316-3108

Missed collections and paid excess trash pick-up, call JRM at 800-323-HAUL (4285)

Additional information can be found online at:

arlingtonma.gov/recycle

Receive trash and recycling reminders via email.

Subscribe to Town of Arlington Notices at:

arlingtonma.gov/subscribe

Recycling Center

Drop Off for Harder-to-Recycle Materials

Every Month at 51 Grove Street

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

See calendar for exact dates. Arlington residents only.

Foam, only white, rigid packing foam that snaps when you bend it, such as a cooler.

Bulky Rigid Plastic, such as trash barrels, storage bins, crates and plastic outdoor furniture.

Scrap Metal, such as hangers, pots and pans, shelving, and file cabinets.

Plastic Bags and Bubble Wrap, clean and dry. Also drop off at local grocery stores for recycling.

Books & Media, professionally recorded CDs and DVDs only.

Clothes, Shoes & Textiles, such as sheets and towels, must be dry, please place in a bag.

Fire Extinguishers, NEW \$5 each if full. Free if discharged and disassembled.

Materials below are accepted at the Recycling Center as well as during regular DPW business hours.

Propane tanks, up to 20 lbs.

Ink and Toner Cartridges

Electronic waste, some fees apply

Batteries, rechargeable, lithium, nicad, button cell. (Alkaline in trash)

Special collections on these dates

Medical Sharps



Aug. 10, 2019

Nov. 2, 2019

Feb. 8, 2020

May 9, 2020

Place in a sharps disposal container.

Paper Shredding



Aug. 10, 2019

Oct. 5, 2019

May 9, 2020

Cash donations for FoodLink and Arlington Food Pantry suggested.

Donate



Oct. 5, 2019

May 9, 2020

Clothing and small household goods for social service agencies.

Bikes



Oct. 5, 2019

May 9, 2020

With bikesnotbombs.org
+\$10 cash donation appreciated.

Building Material



Oct. 5, 2019

May 9, 2020

Re-salable items only, first check
bostonbuildingresources.com

Volunteer !



Get involved!
Call 781-316-3108



Hoses are
trash



Latex paint must be
dried completely
then placed in trash



Return CFLs to hardware
stores for safe disposal,
others go in the trash



PVC pipe and vinyl
siding, in small
amounts, are trash



Soft foam is
trash

TOWARD ZERO WASTE

What can I do?

- **REDUCE** what you bring home.
- **REUSE** items, share with others, or give away. Check out online marketplaces and social media groups like Everything is Free in Arlington and Freecycle.org.
- **RECYCLE** correctly at the curb. Stick to the basics. Help keep raw materials valuable for remanufacturing.
- **COMPOST** in your backyard or with a curbside collection subscription service.
- **DECREASE** what goes to the incinerator and landfill.

We can all help protect our natural resources and the Earth

COMMUNITY EVENTS

2019

- **July 14** Fixit Clinic
- **Sept. 14** Town Day
- **Nov. 3** Fixit Clinic & Clothing Swap



2020

- **March** EcoFest
- **April** EcoWeek
- **May 16** Town Wide Yard Sale

VOLUNTEER

- Zero Waste Arlington Committee
- Outreach events
- Recycling Center

Contact cmilan@town.arlington.ma.us

Visit arlingtonma.gov/recycle to learn more about:

DIVERT FOOD SCRAPS

Repurpose food scraps



- Compost at home. \$25 bins sold at DPW.
- Subscribe to a curbside food scrap collection service.

TEXTILE RECYCLING

95% of textiles can be reused or recycled



Donate your clothes, shoes, sheets, and towels in drop off locations throughout town.

HAZARDOUS WASTE DISPOSAL

Help keep our environment safe



Dispose of household hazardous materials at the eight collection events throughout the year. Schedule at arlingtonma.gov/hhw

BORROW HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

Check out tools, small kitchen appliances, board games, artwork, and more from Robbins Library's



LIBRARY OF THINGS

robbinslibrary.org





Town of Arlington
Department of Public Works
51 Grove Street
Arlington, MA 02476

PRSRT STD
ECRWSS
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Boston, MA
Permit No.
59414

Postal Customer
Arlington, MA



Toward Zero Waste

**Recycling
& Trash Guide**

NEW for 2019-2020



Dear Residents,

Recycling is in the national news lately and some of the messages are confusing and alarming. Please be assured that while the business of recycling may be less profitable, there are still manufacturers who want to purchase the plastic, paper & cardboard, metals, and glass that we carefully separate out from our trash. Fortunately for Arlington, our costs for recycling have remained consistent, yet we are planning for a future when they may rise.

Massachusetts has waste ban laws that require we provide recycling opportunities for our residents, so there will not be any interruption of service. A new state initiative seeks to make the rules for recycling easier for everyone, so Arlington has signed on to the RecycleSmart program. Unfortunately, this means that cartons (milk, juice, soup) that were previously collected and added to mixed paper recycling can no longer be recycled. We ask you to place these containers in the trash. Likewise, shredded paper can no longer be collected as recycling and should instead be placed in the trash. While we know these changes are disappointing, our community is part of a much larger system of recycling producers, and that whole system needs to create a cleaner product in order to more easily (and profitably) make new consumer items. Good news: please start including your *empty* pizza boxes in recycling. A little food oil/grease is acceptable.

We've renamed this year's guide "Toward Zero Waste" to emphasize some of the additional activities the Town will be encouraging. Clothing swaps, the Robbins' Library of Things, textile donation/recycling, and Fixit Clinics all support a broader cultural shift towards repair, repurposing, and sharing our material possessions in ways that produce less waste.

Residents who are eager to take more action toward zero waste can take a major step by purchasing new items made from recycled content, such as household paper goods and office paper. Companies are now making toys and even clothing from what was once curbside recycled yogurt cups and water bottles- and they're advertising it! The emerging circular economy can help bolster local jobs and remanufacturing, as well as reduce the new raw materials we extract from the earth.

Do you own a business in Town? Call DPW for information about our commercial orange bag program.

